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THE

Journal of the Society of Arts,

AND OF

THE INSTITUTIONS IN UNION.

No. 261.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1857.

Vol. VI.

Journal of the Society of Arts.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1857.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS.

The Council hereby call a Special General Meeting of the Members of the Society, to be held at the House of the Society, on Tuesday, the 1st of December, at seven o'clock.

By Order,
P. LE NEVE FOSTER,
Secretary.

FIRST ORDINARY MEETING.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 18, 1857.

The First Ordinary Meeting of the One Hundred and Fourth Session, was held on Wednesday, the 18th inst., Mr. C. Wentworth Dilke, Chairman of the Council, in the chair.

The following Institution has been taken into Union since the last announcement :—

447. West Brompton, Literary and Mutual Improvement Institution.

The CHAIRMAN said :—

Before proceeding to read the address of the Council, it appears to me that I should say a few words as to the reason of my appearance to night as chairman. This is not the time for any discussion on the subject—the meeting to-night, open to strangers, being restricted to hearing the address of the Council. It is, however, known, I presume, to all the members present, that extreme differences of opinion had arisen between the members of the Council and the chairman—on which the chairman was requested to resign. The circumstances will be explained in the Address of the Council. The Council were good enough to intimate their wish that I should accept the office thus vacated. I declined, because I knew that I was wanting in one qualification, at least,—the power of addressing public meetings. I was, however, assured that it was of far more importance at the present

moment to have a person in the chair who could attend to the business of the Society, and one known to have abstained, until the last moment, from taking part in the past angry discussions. Therefore it is that I am here, ready as I ever have been to do the work of the Society, and putting my trust in the good feeling of the members, that they will be tolerant of all my deficiencies and support me in maintaining the interests of the Society through its elected officers.

The CHAIRMAN then proceeded to deliver the following

ADDRESS.

In accordance with the Bye-laws of the Society, it is my duty, as Chairman of the Council, to foreshadow to you the views which the Council entertain of the policy which should be pursued by the Society during the present session to further the progress of the Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce, so far as our influence may extend.

The condition of India engrosses the public mind at the present time, and Parliament will doubtless consider the whole policy of its government. With that question the Council would not presume to meddle. But whatever affects the trade and commerce of that great empire and this country comes legitimately within the province of the Society to discuss. It is alleged that the system in force, until within the last quarter of a century, which prohibited any one under a heavy penalty from going to India to settle and embark his capital, still exerts a traditional influence in making it almost impossible, even at the present time, for any one to do so advantageously. It is alleged that the first requisite in developing the productive powers of any country is notoriously wanting in India, and that few, if any, adequate inducements are held out to British capitalists to construct railways, bridges, harbours, and docks, or to invest their money in that country. There is a strong feeling on this point in Manchester and other important seats of British industry. Without passing any judgment on the subject, the Council feel that the Society will be rendering good service by appointing a Committee to correspond with those who may be interested, and to bring before the Society

and the public any useful facts which may be elicited. The Council therefore propose to seek the co-operation of influential persons in the chief manufacturing towns of the country with a view to carry out this object. The Secretary has also been in communication with Dr. Ruist, of Bombay, who has kindly undertaken to forward a communication to the Society during the present Session.

The extension of the railway system into India and our colonies within the tropics renders an inquiry into the nature and character of the various woods produced in those countries desirable, in order that a comparison may be instituted between them and those in ordinary use for railway purposes in Europe. It seems, also, desirable to ascertain the most effective and economic means of preserving such materials, when brought into use for sleepers, or any other railway purpose, against the destructive effects of extreme heat and moisture, and the ravages of white ants. It is further important to take measures for ascertaining, on the score of economy in construction, the practicability of extensively adopting in tropical countries the use of iron for railway purposes instead of wood.

The attention of the Council has been called to the reported failure of gutta percha as an insulating material for Electric Telegraphs in India and other hot climates, and it would seem desirable that every effort should be made to discover some new material, capable of resisting high temperatures, which may be adopted as a substitute. A paper by Professor Bleekrode, of Delft, recently published in the Society's *Journal*,* has thrown light upon the class of plants yielding this description of gum. The attention of chemists and manufacturers may well be directed to the importance of rendering these, or similar substances, suitable for use in hot climates. The Dutch Government have seen the importance of getting further information as to the supply of this important material from their colonies, and for this purpose have lately sent there an eminent chemist and naturalist, Professor De Vriese, to make investigations on the spot.

The subject of Indian fibres was ably dealt with by Dr. Royle, in his paper read before the Society last year, but the cost of carriage from the interior to the ports of shipment appears, hitherto, to have prevented their extensive introduction into our markets, though their value was fully proved by the sales at the London Commercial Sale-rooms, in February last.†

The active measures which have been recently taken to construct railways in India, though seriously interfered with by the mutinies, will, it is hoped, soon be renewed, and ultimately be the means of opening up to this country the commerce of the interior, and of affording faci-

ties for the more extensive introduction of British manufactures to the 150,000,000 of inhabitants of that country.

There has always been an intimate connexion between our Colonies and the objects of this Society, and in directing special attention to the subject of India during the Session, the Council would not have it inferred that subjects bearing on general colonial interests will receive less attention than hitherto. It is known that our manufacturers require increased supplies of cotton, wool, and hair, or substitutes for hair, and some of our colonial possessions may supply many new varieties of each, or animals may be acclimatised with this view. It would be extremely advantageous to the colonies, if the example of Mr. Chief Justice Temple, given last year, were more frequently followed, and information in reference to their natural resources and industrial products, were extensively collected by those whose position and influence enable them to do so with facility. The Council will gladly lend their aid in obtaining reports upon the uses and market value of any products that may be forwarded to the Society from any of our colonial possessions; they would be glad to receive samples of some of the finest cabinet woods from Australia and Tasmania, which they believe would, from their remarkable beauty, find a ready sale.

The recent failures in the European vine crops point to the desirability of encouraging the cultivation of the vine in our colonies generally. Considerable progress has already been made at the Cape and in Australia. Some useful suggestion in reference to this subject will be found in a recent number of the *Journal*.*

Late discoveries in Africa have excited much public attention, and a collection of the various kinds of cotton, wool, hair, dyes, vegetable oils, as well as the grain and minerals of that country, would possess peculiar interest. At a time when increased supplies of cotton are so much required, the importance of investigating the resources of a country which is known to be capable of producing this plant in large quantities, can hardly be over-rated. Should a collection of these products be formed, it is highly desirable that, in order to render it commercially useful, the cost of each specimen in bulk at the nearest sea-port should be mentioned, as well as the quantities in which it could be supplied.

In the year 1853, the Council received a communication from the New Zealand Society, in reference to New Zealand flax, placing fifty pounds at the disposal of the Society of Arts, and the Council have not been called upon to award this premium, and they would now direct attention to the offer lately made by the New Zealand government, of prizes amounting

* See vol. v., page 625.

† See *Journal*, vol. v., page 254.

* See page 672, vol. v.

to £4,000, of which particulars were recently published in the Society's *Journal*.*

The following are the prizes offered :—

£2,000 to the first person, and £1,000 to the second person who shall, by some process of their own invention, produce from the *Phormium Tenax*, or other fibrous plants indigenous to New Zealand, one hundred tons of merchandise; and £200 to each of the first five persons, other than those entitled to the first and second rewards, who shall by any process, whether of his own invention or not, produce from the *Phormium Tenax*, or other fibrous plants indigenous to New Zealand, twenty-five tons of merchandise.

"The merchandise must be saleable as an article of export from the Colony of New Zealand, and have been produced at a cost not exceeding 75 per cent. of its value at the port of entry from which it is exported; and the process used must be fully made known with a view to the discovery being at once made available to the public."

With reference to this subject, as well as to the general products of this Colony, the Council have arranged for a paper to be read before the Society, during the Session, when it is hoped that some useful information will be given as to the peculiar characteristics of the New Zealand flax, and the present mode of operating upon it, and which may tend to forward the object of the New Zealand Government in offering these premiums.

Having thus touched upon what may be called the foreign policy of the Society, the Council would next direct attention to some subjects of interest nearer home. With reference to the Evening meetings, the papers to be read previously to Christmas, are as follows.†

In addition to these, the Council hope to bring forward, among other subjects of interest, that of noxious trades generally, the recent discoveries in science and their application to the Arts and Manufactures, refuse materials and their re-conversion, metropolitan telegraphs and their economical construction, the past and present state of French agriculture, and many others. A further communication on the natural resources and industrial products of British Honduras, is expected from Mr. Chief Justice Temple.

The Council have not lost sight of the important question of the Amendment of the Patent Law, and of the tax which it imposes upon inventors seeking that protection, which tax is absorbed in the general revenue of the country, through the department of stamps and taxes. If any greater fund is to be raised than may be necessary to pay the working expenses of the office, after the large compensations secured by the present Act to the law officers shall have lapsed, all parties are agreed that such surplus

ought not to go to the general exchequer, but to the promotion of invention. At the present time, this surplus is many thousands a-year, which have unexpectedly arisen from the reduction of the old patent fees to chaff-wax and others, and this has been carried by an ingenious mode to the credit of the public revenue. Now there are two obvious modes of applying this surplus fund, if we must have a surplus. First, to assist the Mechanics' Institutions with the means of providing a better class of education, and, secondly, to provide proper buildings, not only in the metropolis, but in the provincial seats of manufacture, to exhibit models of patented inventions. In less than five months, 200,000 persons have visited the experimental temporary patent Museum at South Kensington: sufficient proof has been afforded of the interest taken by the public in this collection, to justify the immediate provision of a suitable public building to exhibit patent models. The Council propose, therefore, to re-appoint a Patent Committee to watch this subject, and rescue the surplus fees from the present unfair system of appropriation.

The Council also feel that the Society might render considerable benefit to Art if it would take in hand the equitable adjustment of the law of copyright in Art production. First, by collecting proper information on all matters connected with this important subject and, secondly, by bringing all its influence to bear in order to a thorough settlement of the whole question. As it is, these laws are most unequal, affording protection in some cases and utterly neglecting others, and thus inflicting serious injury on the purchasers of Art as well as upon the artist. Prints and engravings enjoy a tolerable degree of protection under the 8 Geo. 2, extended and enforced under the 7th and 17th of George 3rd, but still requiring much revision. Sculpture enjoys some degree of protection under the 38th of George 3rd, and under the 54th of the same king, as well as some also under the recent Act for the registration of designs. But the painter has no protection, as has been shown but too fully by many recent transactions, as in the injury done to Mr. F. R. Pickersgill, Mr. Ward, and Mr. Linnell. It appears that any person may make and sell a copy of any picture that has passed out of the artist's hands; or even if the copy has been surreptitiously made while the picture was in his possession, he has no means of preventing the sale of it. Moreover, any such copy may be engraved without his consent, and the artist has no remedy, neither can he control the sale: or his picture may be photographed, and either retailed by this means, or by means of engraving from the photograph; so that when once his picture has left his own secure custody, he has no legal means of enforcing any claim he may have reserved as to the right of engraving it, or any protection by which the

* See Vol. v., p. 328.

† See *Journal*, Vol. v., p. 681.

benefits arising from his own mental labour is secured to him.

The proposal made, some years since, for a parcel postage, has not yet been carried out. This is an important question, as affecting the commercial and manufacturing interests of the country, and might form a legitimate subject for discussion, particularly in reference to the circulation of patterns.

The importance of increased facilities for conveying the heavy goods traffic of London, and relieving the present thoroughfares, points to the necessity for opening up new lines of communication; and the drawings which surround this room, show that the Metropolitan Board of Works is actively engaged in the furtherance of this object: the Council of the Society had great pleasure in placing the rooms at the disposal of the Board for this exhibition. Members of the Society will doubtless remember the able paper which was read before them, last session, on the Thames embankment and metropolitan improvements generally, as well as the valuable suggestions offered in another communication with regard to metropolitan railways. The Council have reason to believe that these papers have been the means of drawing special public attention to the subject, and they will still be glad to lend their aid in the important work of rendering the thoroughfares of this metropolis adequate to the requirements of its ever increasing traffic. Other departments of metropolitan improvement, such as water supply, lighting, and improved arrangements for the supply of provisions, may also usefully occupy the attention of the Society.

The recently-published report of Professor Hunt, on the "Mineral Statistics of the United Kingdom,"* naturally suggests the importance of studying the means of economising the use of coal, and of obtaining economical substitutes for it, for the ordinary purposes of heating and lighting. The desirability of economising space in the holds of steam-vessels is also involved in this question, upon which the Council will be glad to receive communications.

The Council have it in contemplation to appoint a Committee to examine into the present state of the law and practice of shipping insurance, as affecting the advancement of naval architecture, and commerce, and the interests of merchants, commanders, and seamen. This Committee might also consider the present classification and registration of ships, with a view to the advancement of the character of our shipping, and the general interests of commerce, as well as the state of the education of seamen, and the means of improving it, both in a moral, scientific, and practical point of view. The nature and bearing of the public and local taxes on ship-

ping, and their influence on the character of our shipping and commerce generally, as well as any points of a general nature in the mechanical arrangements for working, ventilating, and navigating ships which may seem capable of improvement, would naturally occupy the attention of such a Committee.

The intimate connexion between Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce, naturally leads to the discussion of questions affecting their precise relation with each other. Thus, certain points of social science and political economy have, from time to time, occupied the attention of the Society, and papers have been read on the international commercial impediments which arise out of fiscal exactions, and diversity of standards of currency, and of weights and measures. During the ensuing session, these and other cognate subjects will probably be brought under consideration, though it may be difficult at this moment to indicate the precise form which they may assume.

The third award of the prize of "a silver goblet, value 100 guineas, containing gold coin to the same amount," will be made, in accordance with the will of the late Dr. Swiney, in January, 1859, and the conditions will be shortly advertised.

The Council desire to draw attention to the special prizes which were announced for competition during the last Session. The first of these consists of a prize of 200 guineas, placed in the hands of the Council by Mr. Henry Johnson, to be awarded for "The best Essay on the present financial position of the country as affected by recent events, in which the principle of a sinking fund should be discussed, and also an investigation made as to the best mode of gradually liquidating the National Debt." The Essays are to be sent to the Society of Arts by the 31st day of December, 1857.

The other two prizes consist of sums of £50 and £20 respectively, which have been placed in the hands of the Council by Sir W. C. Trevelyan, Bart., to be awarded for "The two best and approved Essays on the applications of the Marine Algæ and their products, as food or medicine for man and domestic animals. Competitors must give the results of their original investigations on sea-weeds (especially on the chemistry of their nutrient principles); and they must prepare a series of specimens illustrative of the best modes of collecting, preserving, and preparing the nutritive species in a state fit for food. Mere compilations will not be admitted to competition."

The Essays, with accompanying specimens, are to be sent to the Society of Arts by the 31st day of March, 1858.

In reference to the last mentioned prizes, the Council desire to draw attention to the letters from Sir John Bowring and Dr. Macgowan,

* See *Journal*, Vol. v., p. 665.

which were published in a recent number of the *Journal*.*

The Council are happy to draw attention to the benefit which the public is now deriving from the results of the Educational Exhibition, suggested by Mr. Chester, and carried out by the Society in the year 1854, in St. Martin's Hall. The collection then presented to the Council by the exhibitors, has formed the nucleus of the present Educational Exhibition at South Kensington.

It will be remembered that one of the Society's Vice-Presidents has been for some time engaged in preparing a collection of articles and illustrations, designed to familiarise the working classes with the means which science and commerce present for improving their condition as to dwellings, furniture, and household utensils, their food and clothing, and the sanitary considerations involved in their domestic and industrial life. The materials thus got together as the nucleus of an Economic Museum, were some months ago placed by the Council at the disposal of the Committee of the Privy Council on Education, under an impression that, from the explanatory and instructive manner in which they were intended to be labelled and classified, they might suitably form part of the Educational Museum at South Kensington. Many obstacles have hitherto prevented their complete exhibition, particularly the want of available space, Mr. Twining's ill-health, and other unforeseen circumstances; nevertheless, a portion of the food department has been shown on a small scale, so as to give an idea of the kind and amount of usefulness which might ultimately be expected from this and other portions of the collection.

A certain number of illustrations also of model dwellings and a few fittings are exhibited in another part of the building. Other materials are in preparation, and it is to be hoped that a slow, but persevering progress will ultimately realise, either at Kensington or elsewhere, a complete series of illustrations of every-day life, offering to the working classes in an attractive form the kind of instruction they so much require.

The Council have now to make some statements respecting the Examinations and the Board of Examiners.

As the present meeting is not confined to members of the Society of Arts, it is not a meeting for discussion; and, on this ground, the Council had hoped that it would not be necessary, in this address, to enter into any details which might provoke a desire to reply; but that a full statement of all that has occurred, and of all that is proposed by the Council, in reference to the Examinations and the Examiners, might be reserved to the special meeting to which the whole matter must be speedily referred, and the Council have now to announce that the day fixed for that

meeting is Tuesday, the 1st of December, at 7 o'clock.

Recent circumstances, however, compel the Council, on this occasion, to enter into the details more fully than had been intended; and, if the inconvenience of being prevented from replying at once to what may be said, is felt by any one, it must be remembered that this course has been forced on the Council, who have no hesitation in saying that they feel themselves to have been entirely misrepresented by their late Chairman.

The plan of Examinations which the Council originally proposed, and which the Conference of the representatives of the Institutes in Union with us unanimously approved of in 1854, was drawn up by Mr. Chester, with whom the Union of Institutes had originated. It was a plan for Examinations, by printed papers, under the authority of the Society of Arts, at such places throughout the Union as could make suitable arrangements for the satisfactory working of the papers.

That plan was intended to be brought into operation in the spring of 1855; but, from causes which had little or no bearing upon the merits of the plan, did not come into effect at that time. In the summer of 1855, Dr. Booth was appointed Chairman of the Council, and brought the plan into operation, but in doing so he introduced into it some important modifications. Of these, by far the most important was the addition of *oral* examination to the original plan of examination by papers, and this combined system of oral and written examination was then tried at a single centre, viz., in this House, in June, 1856. The experiment was successful as far as it went, but the representatives of the Institutes who attended the Conference in June of that year, almost unanimously expressed their opinions that the peculiar wants of our Institutions would be met by no system of examination which was not capable of being brought home to their doors.

In the summer and autumn of 1856, the Council were invited to extend the examinations to various places in the following year, and the Board of Examiners recommended that they should be held, oral and written, at four places, including London. The Council, however, who alone have the data for deciding what the Society of Arts can do, felt themselves unable to accept this advice, and resolved that, in 1857, there should be only two centres of examination, London and Huddersfield, at which places examinations were accordingly held in June last, and the Society and the Institutes in Union are deeply indebted to the Examiners for their very valuable services, which were rendered gratuitously.

Soon afterwards, however, the Council found themselves brought into a position of great embarrassment. They became aware that Dr. Booth, who was at once Chairman of the Council and of

* See page 657, Vol. v.

the Board of Examiners, had in public speeches in different parts of the country, and in published letters during the vacation, led the public to expect that the Society was about to do what the Council had not decided to do, and, more than that, did not think right or expedient, or even possible, to be done. It also appeared that he, without any authority from the Council, and without communicating with the Secretary, had inserted in the Society's *Journal* an advertisement of the forthcoming programme of the Examinations for 1858, with a table of contents, from which it could not but be concluded that the Society had decided to confer the title of "Associate of the Society of Arts" upon those young men who might obtain certain certificates from the Board of Examiners, and also that he had held out to various provincial towns, which he had specified, that the Society would hold oral and written examinations there in the ensuing year. Neither of these points had been brought before the Council. It further appeared that a draft of this programme, *before the Council saw it*, had been sent by Dr. Booth to several persons not of the Council; and letters were received by the Secretary from young men in various towns, stating that they had been informed that the Society had decided to create "Associates."

On the 30th of September, the draft of the proposed programme was sent up from the Board of Examiners to the Council. The Council have since ascertained that this very important document—which assumed the creation of "Associates"—which specified five places at which the Council were to hold oral and written examinations in 1858—and which provided for the examination of the pupils of commercial schools, (*though the Bye-law which was proposed to carry this out had been rejected by the General Meeting to which it was referred*), had been sent to the examiners in print, without any intimation of the gravity of those points, and had only once been before a meeting of the Board, which meeting was held on September 30th, (the day the draft was forwarded to the Council), and consisted of only four examiners, including Dr. Booth, just one-tenth part of the Board.

This programme came before the Council at their first meeting after the vacation, viz., on the 30th of September last, as stated above. Dr. Booth and nine other members of the Council were present.* Exception was immediately taken to the Chairman's proceedings, previously alluded to, as embarrassing to the Council, and he admitted that he had acted inadvertently.

* Present:—Rev. Dr. Booth in the chair, Mr. F. Bennoch, Mr. Harry Chester, Mr. Joseph Glynn, Mr. Peter Graham, Mr. Matthew Marshall, Mr. J. C. Macdonald, Professor Edward Solly, Mr. G. F. Wilson, and Mr. Thomas Winkworth.

Objections to the proposed creation of "Associates" were very generally expressed. It was thought wholly unsuitable to the character of the Society, and likely to bring ridicule upon those who should bestow, and upon those who should bear, the title. No member of the Council but Dr. Booth defended it. He stated that the system of Examinations was, in his judgment, the only thing left to the Society to do; and that the time had gone by in which it could usefully promote the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce. It is needless to say that this sentiment was not echoed in the Council. After considerable discussion, it was resolved that a special meeting of the Council should be summoned for the further consideration of the "programme," particularly with reference to the questions of Associates and of centres of oral and written examination. That meeting was held on the 8th of October. Dr. Booth was again in the chair, and ten other members were present.*

Dr. Booth withdrew the proposal of Associates; and, after a very long discussion, it was unanimously resolved to request the Board of Examiners to explain to the Council by what means the Board proposed to carry out the plan of oral and written Examinations, at five centres, in 1858; and to furnish a detailed statement of the probable cost.

On the 28th of October the Council met to receive the Examiners' report. There were present Dr. Booth in the chair, and fourteen other members, an unusually large number.† A very full and long discussion occupied almost all the evening; and at length the following resolution was carried by a majority of 12 to 1, Dr. Booth being the only dissentient:—

"The Council having fully considered the subject of oral and written Examinations, and the report of the Board of Examiners thereon, are of opinion that oral Examinations cannot be satisfactorily conducted by this Society at four centres besides London, simultaneously."

The main reasons for the adoption of this resolution were—1st, The expense of sending out the requisite number of Boards of Examiners to great distances from London; 2nd, The impossibility of procuring the services of so many Examiners of equal authority, certain to give uniform judgments, at one time in different and distant places; and 3rd, The very small extent to which even these five centres could supply

* Present:—Rev. Dr. Booth in the chair, Mr. Bennoch, Mr. Chester, Mr. J. Griffith Frith, Mr. James Glaisher, Mr. Peter Graham, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Macdonald, Colonel W. H. Sykes, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Winkworth.

† Present:—Rev. Dr. Booth in the chair; Mr. Bennoch, Mr. Chester, Mr. Henry Cole, Mr. C. Wentworth Dilke, Mr. Frith, Mr. Glaisher, Mr. Glynn, Mr. Peter Graham, Mr. W. Fairbairn, Mr. W. Hawes, Mr. Macdonald, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Winkworth.

the wants of the Institutes which are scattered all over the United Kingdom.

It was then resolved that the foregoing resolution be communicated to the Board of Examiners, and that they be requested to prepare a scheme for examination by papers only. With this request Dr. Booth advised the Examiners not to comply; and they declined compliance, alleging that they were going "out of office within a week from this time" (Nov. 4th), to use the words of their own resolution.

On the 5th inst. the Council met, by special summons from the chairman, to consider the following resolution, "and for the further consideration of the programme." The proposed resolution was as follows:—

"That the subscriptions received from the Mechanics' and other Institutions in union with the Society of Arts, either directly or indirectly through their presidents or other officers, be from this present Michaelmas set apart from the ordinary income of this society, and be called the 'Institution Fund.' That all necessary expenses incurred in the management and organisation of the examinations, or other measures for the benefit of the Mechanics' Institutions, be defrayed out of this fund. That a committee, selected from the Council and Board of Examiners, be charged with the administration of it; and that a detailed audited account of the income and expenditure be published annually, in November, and furnished to every Institution in union."

There were present, Dr. Booth in the chair, and ten other members.* When the Chairman rose to move his resolution, he was met *in limine* by the objection that it was at variance with the charter, and could not be proposed. After all the members present had shown their concurrence in this objection, and it had been much discussed, Dr. Booth was asked whether he would not withdraw his resolution. He declined to withdraw it, and it was then voted, Dr. Booth alone dissentient, that the resolution was illegal and could not be put. A protracted and painful discussion ensued, in the course of which Dr. Booth avowed that he took no interest in any of the Society's objects except the Examinations; and at last, on the grounds which have been now stated, and for other reasons stated to Dr. Booth at the meeting, a requisition, signed by every member present, was handed to the chairman, requesting him to resign the chair. The meeting was then adjourned to the following day.

On the 6th instant there were present seven members,† the members absent on the 5th having been specially summoned to the adjourned meeting. The meeting being by adjournment, the special business for it was "the further consideration of the programme." Any

matter, therefore, that the programme contained was properly before the meeting. The Board of Examiners was a part of the programme. The meeting was, therefore, fully competent to deal with that subject. The attention of the Council was called to the constitution of the Board of Examiners in reference to the *new* Bye-laws which were then about to be brought into operation *for the first time on the 11th inst.* Portions of the Bye-laws relating to the Board were shown to be clearly illegal. They constituted the Board an independent body, remaining in office when every other officer, from the president downwards, goes out of office; fixing their own number, which the Council have no power to alter; nominating themselves, the Council having no power of nomination but only of rejection of individuals; choosing their own chairman, and giving to him, who need not even be a member of the Society of Arts, a right to attend at every meeting of the Council. The Society need not be informed that the Charter vests the absolute control of the Society's affairs in the Council, and that no bye-law is valid in so far as it contravenes the Charter.

The Council were aware that the Board of Examiners, at its last meeting, had settled a list of *proposed* Examiners, which was to be subjected to the ballot of the existing members of the Board on the 11th instant. That list contained 63 names, which, however, might have been reduced on the ballot. If the meeting on the 11th had taken place, the Council could not have altered the number of Examiners sent up to it, and every gentleman who was appointed would have been appointed on an illegal basis, and would have been in a false position. The Board could meet on the 11th, under the Bye-laws, only to nominate their successors, and then to expire; and the Council thought it to be their duty to take care that the successors were not appointed until the Society had had an opportunity of bringing the bye-laws into harmony with the Charter. That opportunity could not be given until a sub-committee had been enabled to re-cast them, and until the time prescribed for the holding of special meetings had elapsed. The Council, therefore, took the only course that was open to them. The existing Board of Examiners was within a few days of its termination, and could only meet to do that which would be illegal and embarrassing to the Council and to the future Board. The Council, therefore, thought it necessary to inform the Examiners that the meeting could not be held.

On Nov. 11th the Council, specially summoned, again met, eleven in number,* and unani-

* Present:—Rev. Dr. Booth in the chair, Mr. Chester, Mr. Cole, Mr. Dilke, Mr. Peter Graham, Mr. Hawes, Mr. Macdonald, Mr. Marshall, Mr. T. Twining, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Winkworth.

† Adjourned Meeting. Present:—Mr. Dilke, in the chair; Mr. Chester, Mr. Cole, Mr. Hawes, Mr. Macdonald, Mr. Marshall, and Mr. Twining.

* Present:—Mr. Chester, Mr. Cole, Mr. Dilke, Mr. Frith, Mr. Glaisher, Mr. Glynn, Mr. Hawes, Mr. Macdonald, Mr. Twining, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Winkworth. Mr. Cole in the chair, *pro tem.* Mr. Dilke was elected Chairman, and took the chair.

mously and by resolution, confirmed the proceedings of the previous meeting.

The Council have never entertained the notion of suppressing the Board of Examiners, or of discontinuing the examinations, or of connecting them with the Government. The Council are about to put them upon a footing which will render them capable of being extended to any degree that the Institutes in union may require. The pupils of commercial schools will no longer be admitted to the Examinations which are designed for the Institutes united to us. By what we now propose, the growth of local authority in education will be developed; and it may be hoped that out of these measures may grow an important incorporation of Institutes, based on local authority, and capable of meeting exactly their wants in regard to education. The amended programme for the examinations of 1858 will be published with the least possible delay. The Prize Fund for 1858 will take effect over the whole range of the Union, and may, therefore, with advantage be large. The Council will be happy to receive contributions to this fund.

The Council are strongly of opinion that, while the incidental business of the Examiners should be managed by the Council and their officers, and not thrown on the Examiners, those gentlemen should not any longer be asked to render their valuable services in the real work of examination without a fair honorarium.

In conclusion, it becomes the pleasing duty of the Council to announce the medals that have been awarded during the last Session, and in doing so they desire not only to convey the thanks of the Society to the gentlemen whose papers have been deemed worthy of this special mark of recognition, but also to acknowledge the obligation which the Society is under to the authors of other interesting communications which have been brought under its notice both at the evening meetings and in the columns of the *Journal*.

The medals awarded at the close of the last Session were then presented.

The Secretary announced that, at the Meeting on Wednesday, the 25th inst., the following Paper would be read:—"On the Composition and Relative Value of the Food Grains of India," by Dr. Forbes Watson. On this evening Dr. Lyon Playfair, C.B., F.R.S., will preside.

PAPER DUTIES.

The intention of the excise on paper was that it should be an equal duty on all paper, according to weight, and without reference to the purpose to which such paper is to be applied. In all manufactures from paper, it is manifest that there will be more or less waste: these manufactures would naturally, for the most part, be carried on after the paper has left the mill, and there

would be a duty paid upon the waste. The duty is levied to get as much revenue as possible, and without reference to the value of the paper, much less to the value that may be conferred on it by any additional process; there is, therefore, no inconsistency in taxing the waste, any more than in taxing the paper used in any manufacture. But when such manufacture is carried on at a paper mill, the waste is cut away before the paper is charged, and pays no duty: this is strictly according to law, for the law requires only that what goes out of the mill should be charged,—but it is manifestly an interference with the freedom of manufacture, that an envelope-maker (for instance) who makes envelopes at his house should pay a tax which is avoided by the owner of a paper mill; the effect, of course, will be to give the large capitalist not only the advantage of his capital, to which he is fairly entitled, but to place on the small envelope-maker a burden of taxation from which the mill-owner is exempt.

Printing at the paper-mills stands exactly in the same position as making envelopes there; but this has generally been prohibited by the Board of Inland Revenue, and it is even required that a mill for staining paper shall be a certain distance from one belonging to the same owner where paper is made,—though there is not a word in the Act to support this exercise of authority, or to prevent the paper from being printed or stained at the paper-mill, *and charged after it is printed*. Permission to do this has occasionally been granted as a favour: some are of opinion that it may be claimed as a right, and that, if a seizure were made in consequence, and referred to the Court of Exchequer, judgment would be given for the defendant.

Another anomaly is the taxing articles exactly like those which are untaxed, so that the taxed one is driven out of the market. The paper which was formerly used for sheathing ships, and which is still used for roofing, differs but little in its character from felt; and yet the latter only is untaxed.

It appears that the principal inequalities in the present mode of levying the paper duty are as follows:—

Jacquard loom cards, which when done with are still of some value, receive a drawback.

The paper used in making pots, which is destroyed, receives no drawback.

There is no duty charged on Florentine buttons made in the mill, and, of course, there is no duty on the waste.

A duty is charged on the button board to be made into buttons elsewhere, and there is no drawback upon the waste.

Gun waddings differ from Florentine buttons only in having white paper pasted over the brown board, but, unlike Florentine buttons, gun waddings pay no duty, and are smuggled among the buttons to the detriment of the fair trader who pays his duty.

Jacquard cards already pierced pay no customs duty. Jacquard cards not pierced pay customs duty of 2½d. per lb. Cards fit for boxes pay customs duty of 2½d. per lb.

Boxes ready made pay only ten per cent. *ad valorem*.

The following correspondence has taken place between the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, and Mr. J. Scott, a maker of envelopes:—

The humble Memorial of John Scott, of Charlotte-street, Blackfriars-road, Envelope-maker;

SHOWETH,—

That your Memorialist is a maker of envelopes, which he cuts from paper manufactured by another person; that in the process of cutting there is a considerable waste of paper; that this waste is of value only for the purpose of being re-made into paper, for which purpose your Memorialist sells it at £19 per ton; and that the duty on this sum, £14 14s., is a duty from which the envelope-maker who is also a mill-owner is exempt, as his paper is not

charged till it is made into envelopes, and the waste is thus returned to the mill without the payment of duty.

That your Memorialist, feeling himself aggrieved by this unfair competition, appealed to the Board of Inland Revenue for redress, but without effect, as is set forth in the following correspondence.

No. 1.—(TO THE BOARD.)

That your Memorialist is emboldened to ask for relief from this unfair pressure by a consideration of the following facts:—

1. That the makers of pasteboard, though legally chargeable with duty on the paste, and placed under the supervision of the Excise to be so charged, are allowed, for the most part, to escape payment of that duty.

2. That even in the mills, certain small articles, such as Florentine buttons, are exempted from duty, though no such exemption is laid down by the Act of Parliament.

3. That a drawback is given on the cards used in Jacquard looms, and that this too is a privilege not conferred by the Act.

That it, therefore, appears that it is the practice to temper the severity of the Excise on paper by judicious exemptions.

That in none of the above instances is the exempted party suffering from so unfair a competition as that described by your Memorialist in his own case.

Your Memorialist, therefore, prays that your Honourable Board will grant him a drawback on the waste cut from his envelopes.

No. 2.—(FROM THE BOARD.)

Jan. 21, 1857.

SIR,—The Board of Inland Revenue have now carefully considered the memorial you recently addressed to them, and they desire me to say that they see so much difficulty, as well as danger to the revenue, in the way of an extension of the indulgence to which you refer, to envelope-makers who are not paper-makers, that they cannot consent to give effect to your wishes in this respect.

No. 3.—(TO THE BOARD.)

[EXTRACT.]

March 14th, 1857.

I confess I do not see the difficulty of making such arrangements as would prevent fraud on the revenue. I sell my waste to a paper-maker, and it would be very easy for me to arrange that I should deliver it in the presence of the supervisor, who might either give me an order for the drawback, or deduct the amount from the mill-owner's account, with whom I could make my arrangements.

With such a plan I do not see how the envelope-maker could succeed in the commission of a fraud,—nay he would have much less chance of doing so than the paper-makers themselves.

I therefore respectfully request you to have the kindness to reconsider my petition, and to take into consideration the suggestions I now make.

No. 4.—(FROM THE BOARD.)

[EXTRACT.]

March 28th, 1857.

After a careful reconsideration of the whole subject, the Board are unable to satisfy themselves that the concession in question could be granted with safety to the revenue.

Your Memorialist, whilst acknowledging the courtesy of the Board, complains that their refusal is not accompanied by any specific reason. The principle of giving drawbacks not authorised by the Act of Parliament, having been once admitted, it becomes the duty of those who have the power to grant them, to examine every case presented to them, and not to refuse any claim which is founded on a grievance equal to any which has been previously redressed, unless it can be shown that such previously redressed grievance can be redressed with less danger of fraud on the revenue than would accrue from the entertainment of the subsequent claim.

Your Memorialist, therefore, prays that your Lordships will grant him a drawback on the waste of his envelopes, or, failing this, that you will call upon the Board of Inland Revenue to explain why such drawback would lead to a fraud on the revenue, so that your Memorialist may have the opportunity of stating to your Lordships the reasons why he thinks such a position untenable.

I have the honour to be, My Lords,

Your Lordships' obedient Servant,

JOHN SCOTT.

(The Treasury in reply.)

June 17th, 1857.

SIR,—With reference to your application, requesting that the drawback of the duty may be allowed on the waste cuttings of paper used by you in making envelopes, I am directed by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to inform you that the law has made no provision for a return of duty in such cases, and My Lords do not think it would be expedient to comply with your application.

I am to observe, with reference to the case of envelope-makers who are also mill-owners, that their envelopes are made from paper before the duty has been charged upon it, and under the supervision of the surveying officers of the Excise; no claim, therefore, arises with respect to the cuttings,—as they are re-manufactured without leaving the premises, the revenue is not exposed to risk.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

JAMES WILSON.

(To the Treasury.)

August 1st, 1857.

MY LORDS,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, in reply to my memorial praying for—

A drawback on the waste of my envelopes or, That the Board of Inland Revenue should be called on to show why they consider that my proposal would endanger the revenue.

In reply, you state,

1st. That the law makes no provision for the drawback which I request.

2nd. That the mill-made envelopes are cut before they are charged, and are, therefore, not liable to the duty on the waste.

3rd. That the revenue is not exposed to risk by this advantage possessed by the mill-owning envelope-maker.

The first two of these statements were made in my Memorial, and the third was implied in it.

I grounded my request on the fact that in other cases, which I specified, you had given a drawback for which no provision had been made by law.

The very grievance of which I complain, is the exemption of the mill-owner from a duty on the waste; no doubt the exemption is perfectly legal, but the right of manufacturing envelopes in the paper mills converts the tax which the Legislature intended to be on the raw material into one merely on the manufactured article, while the heavier tax remains upon the domestic envelope-maker.

Nor is there any limit by law to the amount of wholesale manufacture which may thus be carried on with a differential duty in its favour. A wholesale publisher may print and bind his books at the mill without any compensating inconvenience, except that he must pay duty on the ink, paste, and string employed in printing and binding. It is true that, as yet, you put hindrances in the way of such an establishment; but I cannot find in the Paper Duty Act any restriction other than that which I have named.

You say that by the privilege thus enjoyed the revenue is not exposed to risk. No one could suppose that the paper sent out will not pay duty; I submit, however, that if the revenue be really entitled to a duty on the waste, it is exposed, not to risk, but to positive loss when that duty is not paid,—and that, if the revenue be not entitled to this duty in the case of a mill-owner, it is an act of spoliation to take it from me.

I have already pointed out that your Lordships do not consider yourselves prevented from granting a drawback by the absence of any legal provision for such drawback, and I submit that the only conclusive reason for denying my request would be a well-grounded fear of fraud.

I have submitted a plan, which, as it appears to me, would obviate any attempt at fraud, and my request was, that if you did not at once concede the drawback in my case, you would call on the Board of Inland Revenue to

explain their reasons for thinking it necessary to deny it, I submit that the injustice of the present state of things is so clear, that the necessity for such injustice ought to be made equally clear. This part of my request you have ignored. I therefore again call your attention to it, and submit that if you persist in refusing to grant this portion of my prayer, it will appear that the reason for denying my second request is the justice of the first.

I have, &c.,
JOHN SCOTT.

(From the Treasury.)

October 13, 1857.

SIR,—I am directed by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to inform you that, since the receipt of your further application of the 1st of August, My Lords have been in communication with the Board of Inland Revenue, for the purpose of seeing whether regulations might not be framed under which the concession for which you apply might be made without serious risk to the revenue; and My Lords have given authority to the Board of Inland Revenue to pay drawback of duty charged on waste cuttings of paper made into envelopes, on proof, to the satisfaction of the commissioners, that the cuttings have been reduced to pulp at a paper-mill, or otherwise destroyed.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

W. TREVELYAN.

Mr. J. Scott, 39, Charlotte-street, Blackfriars.

The following has since been issued:—

GENERAL ORDER.

Inland Revenue Office, Somerset-house, London,
October 28th, 1857.

In pursuance of directions from the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, dated the 13th inst.; Ordered,—

That drawback of the duty, charged on the waste cuttings of paper made into envelopes, be allowed under the following regulations, viz.—

The paper from which the envelopes were made, must not have been previously used or prepared for any other purpose.

On notice in writing being given by the envelope-maker to the proper officer, the latter must attend at the premises of the former, and examine the cuttings (observing that they are really those from envelopes, which may be known by their curved and angular form) and see them packed in bags and weighed. He must enter the particulars in a Scheme in his Beer Book, showing the gross weight and the tare of each bag, and the net weight entitled to drawback.

The cuttings must be sent to a paper-mill where paper is *not* cut into forms for envelopes, and must be there reduced to pulp or otherwise destroyed; and the officer must forward to the officer at such mill, an advice letter containing an account of the gross weight, the tare, and the net weight of each bag.

On the arrival of the cuttings at the mill, the paper-maker must give the officer thereof forty-eight hours' notice in writing, in order that he may attend to weigh and examine the cuttings; and, if they agree with the letter of advice, he must see them put into a beating engine, boiler, or other vessel, and saturated with water, and thereupon grant a certificate *in duplicate* that the cuttings have been received, which certificates must be countersigned by his supervisor, who will forward one of them to the officer of the station, and the other to the collector of the collection, from which the cuttings were sent.

On such certificate being received by the officer, he must compare it with the particulars entered in his book, and deliver it to the envelope-maker, who, on producing it to the collector and making declaration before him in the prescribed form, will be paid the amount of the drawback.

Forms of the certificate and declaration may be had on application to the storekeeper.

Supervisors must embrace every opportunity of weighing envelope-cuttings before and after their removal.

If any envelope-maker shall infringe these regulations, to the prejudice of the revenue, this indulgence will be withdrawn from him.

By the Board,
THOMAS DOBSON.

SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM.

During the week ending 14th November, 1857, the visitors have been as follows:—On Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday (free days), 2,403; on Monday and Tuesday (free evenings), 3,852. On the three students' days (admission to the public 6d.), 500. One students' evening, Wednesday, 134. Total, 6,889.

Home Correspondence.

LECTURES AT MECHANICS' INSTITUTES.

SIR,—At the distribution of prizes of the East Lancashire Institutional Union a short time since, the Lord Bishop of Manchester, who presided on the occasion, is reported to have said:—"As the vain, feeble, and unsatisfactory support of lectures was rapidly giving way." This re-echoes a statement in the Annual Report of the Lancashire and Cheshire Association of Mechanics' Institutes, that in the large towns of the Northern and Midland Counties lectures were a complete failure. As agent and lecturer of the Yorkshire Union, comprising 130 Mechanics' Institutes, I delivered no fewer than 113 lectures during the last winter season, and may, therefore, be presumed to have some experience on this subject. I certainly cannot speak of the success, or want of success, which lectures may have met with in Lancashire and Cheshire, or what kind of lectures may have helped to produce the complete failure so confidently alluded to. As far, however, as Yorkshire may be considered a northern county, and it certainly presents the fairest specimens of successful Mechanics' Institutes, I have no hesitation in giving the statement I have referred to the most direct contradiction. So far from being a failure, lectures are better appreciated than ever they were. In the majority of instances I have met with very good attendances, and, what is more satisfactory, attentive listeners of all classes, while I have endeavoured to convey information, chiefly of a scientific character, in popular language made clear by homely illustrations, and I have reason to believe that they have had a good effect upon the members of many of the Yorkshire Institutes.

At the soirée of the Leeds Mechanics' Institute, Lord Brougham made some excellent observations on the value of lectures, although his lordship appeared to me to give undue preference to a continuous course over what he facetiously styled sporadic lectures. This may be very true if the hearers constituted a class for the study of some particular department of science or literature, but for a Mechanics' Institute such a course is simply impossible. For a miscellaneous audience, composed of persons varying in sex, age, condition, habits, and inclinations, I find the most successful lecture to be one which applies scientific knowledge to the affairs of every-day life, which incites to study by pointing out the advantages to be gained by it, which is rather suggestive than instructive, and the tendency of which is to stimulate application in the classes and recourse to the library. In this light, lectures are the most valuable and important aid to the operations of a Mechanics' Institute, and they have this further advantage, that they are often the only means of making the existence of the Institute known to the inhabitants of the locality.

It is sometimes a matter of complaint that lectures are

not pecuniarily successful owing to members being admitted free. Allow me to suggest to managing committees that this difficulty might be, in a great measure, obviated by canvassing the inhabitants generally to take tickets for a course of lectures, varying, of course, in number according to circumstances. They would then be enabled to make arrangements accordingly. In several instances such a plan has been pursued with great success.

I am, &c.

BARNETT BLAKE.

Mechanics' Institute, Leeds.

Proceedings of Institutions.

HERTFORD.—The twenty-sixth annual report of the proceedings of the Literary and Scientific Institution states that, although there appears a balance against the Institution in the treasurer's account, yet the successful working of the Society since the last report, affords the committee great satisfaction. There are two or three items of expenditure which the committee have felt it necessary to incur, which have caused the unusual reduction of the Society's funds. The committee have to record their deep regret at the loss which the Institution sustained in the death of their late president, Earl Cowper. The vacant office was offered to, and accepted by the Marquess Townshend. The question of reviving the discussions during the winter months was brought under the consideration of the committee; but it was thought desirable to try the experiment of holding in lieu thereof monthly conversazioni, at which papers upon various branches of Science and Art, and other subjects of general interest, should be read and conversed upon; and these meetings have proved completely successful. The committee believe that, by continuing these at a future time, they will be promoting one of the best objects of the Institution, namely, the discussion of many subjects of an interesting and instructive character, to the gratification and advantage of those who take part in them, and they recommend that these important auxiliaries to the usefulness of the Society be renewed during the winter months.

RICHMOND.—In the last report of the Parochial Library and Reading-room, the Committee state that this Institution has during the past year progressed satisfactorily in forwarding the objects for which it was founded. Some additional papers have been added to the reading-room, and it has maintained its last year's average of attendance. A new bookcase has been placed in the library, filling up one entire side of the room; and twelve pounds have been most judiciously expended for the Society, by Mr. Bohn, in the purchase of standard works; this, in addition to the handsome donation of ten pound's worth of his own publications, and a large number of volumes presented by J. C. Selwyn, Esq., Q.C., and the executors of the late H. Leatham, Esq., have considerably augmented its interest and usefulness. In addition to which, a large balance from the proceeds of the bazaar remains still to be expended. Upwards of three thousand five hundred volumes have been taken out for perusal during the year. The lectures have continued to maintain, if not to enhance their high character. There have been thirteen during the year, all well attended. The conversational lectures have much improved, both in intrinsic interest and popularity. Of these, there have been eleven, all given (with one exception) by members of the Society. The classes have been: a Hullah Singing Class; Drawing Class; Bible Class; and a Writing Class, which have all been fairly successful. The Committee desire to draw attention to the fact that the one and only candidate from this Society, Mr. Callanan, who has presented himself for the examinations recently held by the Society of Arts, in London, has obtained from that body a certificate of proficiency in the subjects which he took

up. The Committee hope that next year many may be stimulated to follow his example, and assure all members that no effort of theirs shall be wanting to assist, by classes or any other means, the praise-worthy objects which these examinations are designed to carry out. The following are the arrangements for lectures up to Christmas next:—Oct. 20. Concert, by the Hullah Class, director, Mr. Evans. Oct. 29. Lecture, J. Anderson, Esq., "The Evidence of Design in the Animal Creation," with Microscopic Illustrations. Nov. 3. Conversational Lecture, Mr. Holmes, "The Trees and Shrubs of Great Britain," indigenous and naturalised. Nov. 10. Lecture, Rev. J. W. Watson, M.A., "Labour." Nov. 17. Conversational Lecture, Mr. Pugh, "Money: its History and Philosophy, Uses and Abuses." Nov. 24. Lecture, J. H. Stocqueler, Esq., "India." Dec. 1. Conversational Lecture, T. B. Anderson, Esq., "Materials for the Study of Natural Philosophy." (Continued.) Dec. 8. Lecture, S. D. Bird, Esq., "Dreams and Sleep-walking." Dec. 15. Conversational Lecture, Mr. Darnill, "An Evening with Wilkie," illustrated with several engravings from his pictures. The Hullah class commenced a fresh course of lessons on Nov. 2nd. A drawing class, under the superintendence of a master from the Department of Science and Art, at Marlborough-house, will be established as soon as a sufficient number of names are received to warrant the undertaking. Twenty pounds' worth of new standard works have lately been added to the library.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- MON. Geographical, 8½. I. Progress of the British North American Exploring Expedition under Mr. Palliser, F.R.G.S. II. Reports from the Expedition to East Africa under Capt. R. Burton and J. H. Speke, F.R.G.S.
TUES. Civil Engineers, 8. Discussion on Mr. Molesworth's Paper "On the Conversion of Wood by Machinery."
Med. and Chirurg., 8½.
Zoological, 9.
WED. Society of Arts, 8. Dr. Forbes Watson, "On the Composition and Relative Value of the Food Grains of India."
THURS. Antiquaries, 8.
Royal, 8½.
SAT. Medical, 8.

PATENT LAW AMENDMENT ACT.

APPLICATIONS FOR PATENTS AND PROTECTION ALLOWED.

[From Gazette, November 13.]

Dated 2nd September, 1857.

2300. Thomas Hardcastle, Bradshaw, near Bolton-le-Moors—Improvements in machinery for washing textile fabrics and fibrous substances.

Dated 15th September, 1857.

2392. Thomas Archer, jun., Dunston, Gateshead—Improvements in machinery for cutting off and heading lengths of metal, applicable to the manufacture of rivets and other articles.

Dated 21st September, 1857.

2448. Elizabeth Burton West, Kent-terrace, Regent's-park—Improvements in the manner of preparing and applying materials used in brewing to that purpose, and in the various processes and apparatus used in connection with the same, and for a novel apparatus connected with the same. (A communication.)

Dated 8th October, 1857.

2555. Edward Cavendy, New York—An instrument for taking zenith observations at sea (when the horizon is obscured) of any planet.

Dated 10th October, 1857.

2598. George Frederic Lombard, Paris—Improvements in steam engines.

Dated 19th October, 1857.

2664. Luigi de Cristoforis, 67, Lower Thames-street—An improvement on the system of vehicle wheels, to be called the "De Cristoforis Conical Wheels."

2670. Benedict Barnard and Alfred Rosenthal, Cheap-side—A new ornamental fringe or fringed fabric, also the means of producing the same.

2672. Henry Wimbald, Aldermaston, Berkshire—Improvements in machinery or apparatus for the manufacture of bricks, tiles, pipes, and other articles of a similar nature.

2674. William Edward Newton, 66, Chancery-lane—Improvements in the manufacture of drawing rollers. (A communication.)

Dated 20th October, 1857.

2678. Marc Antoine François Mennons, 29, Rue de l'Abbaye-Montmartre, Département de la Seine, France—An improved hydraulic press.

2680. Robert Atkinson and Thomas Brearey, Baildon, near Bradford, Yorkshire—Improvements in loom pickers.
2682. Frances Windhausen, Duderstadt, Hanover—Improvements in increasing the adhesion of the wheels of locomotive engines to rails when moist.
Dated 21st October, 1857.
2688. Alfred Vincent Newton, 66, Chancery-lane—Improvements in the construction of sewing machines, and in the mode of operating such machinery. (A communication.)
Dated 22nd October, 1857.
2690. Charles Reeves, Birmingham—Improvements in repeating or revolving fire arms.
2692. James Hinks, Birmingham—An improvement or improvements in stiffeners for wearing apparel.
2696. John Milne, Royton, Lancashire—Certain improvements in carding engines.
2698. David Hogg Saunders, Craig Mill Cottage, Rattray, Perth—Improvements in the preparation and manufacture of textile fabrics and materials.
Dated 23rd October, 1857.
2700. Thomas Rand and George Beckley, Oxford-street—An improvement in saddle-trees.
2702. Alexander Theophilus Blakely, Tunbridge Wells—Improvements in laying submarine telegraphic cables.
Dated 24th October, 1857.
2706. Alfred Vincent Newton, 66, Chancery-lane—An improvement in the process of making wrought-iron beams or girders. (A communication.)
Dated 26th October, 1857.
2711. James Fairclough, John Fairclough, and Joseph Cowan, Liverpool—Improvements for suspending and working window hangings and other drapery curtains.
2713. Charles de Clippelle, Brussels—Improvements in the manufacture of boots and shoes, harness, and driving straps, which improvements are applicable to uniting various materials together, and also for waterproofing.
2716. Rev. John Walter Lee, Chelmsford—Improvements in communicating between the different parts of railway trains.
2717. Aaron Marks, 119, London-wall—An improved fastening for gloves and other articles.
Dated 27th October, 1857.
2719. Charles Cadby, Liquorpond-street—Improvements in pianofortes.
2721. James Newall, Bury—Improvements in railway breaks and signals, and in the machinery or apparatus for working the same.
2723. Marc Antoine François Mennons, 39, Rue de l'Echiquier, Paris—An improved varnish. (A communication.)
Dated 28th October, 1857.
2725. William Irlam, Gibraltar Works, Newton Heath, near Manchester—Improvements in wrought iron railway chairs, sleepers, and crossings.
2727. John Addison, Tours, France—Discovering and destroying hydrogen or carburetted hydrogen gas and other gases in coal mines, dwelling houses, and other places.
2729. William Smith, 10, Salisbury-street, Adelphi—Improvements in couplings or connections for shafts. (A communication.)
2731. Abel West, Wormley Ring, Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire—Improvements in the manufacture of candles.
2733. George Shillibeer, 1, Commercial-place, City-road, and George Giles, 10, Gray's-inn-square—Improvements in omnibuses.
2735. William Clark, 53, Chancery-lane—An improvement in rails for railways. (A communication.)
2737. William Clark, 53, Chancery-lane—Certain improvements in machinery for carding cotton, wool, and other fibrous substances. (A communication.)
2739. Elizabeth McDowall, Johnstone, Renfrew, N.B.—Improvements in steam hammers. (A communication.)
2741. Henry Taylor, Staley-bridge, Lancashire—An improvement in the "cans" employed in connection with machinery for preparing cotton and other fibrous materials for spinning.
2743. Robert Alexander Ronald, Paisley—Improvements in the manufacture of shawls.
Dated 29th October, 1857.
2745. William Delf, jun., Great Bentley, Essex—Improvements in ploughs.
2747. Pietro Felio, 97, Holborn-hill—The improvement of an illuminating reflector of light from gas, oil, or candle.
2749. David Allison and John Livingston, Manchester—Improvements in machinery or apparatus for regulating the weight or pressure to top rollers used in spinning or preparing fibrous materials to be spun.
2751. Jonas Craven, Bradford, Yorkshire—Improvements in machinery or apparatus used in weaving.
2753. George William Robinson, Barton-on-Humber—Improvements in clod-crushing rollers.
Dated 30th October, 1857.
2755. Joseph Boyes Fraser, Kenilworth—An improvement or improvements in lubricating shafts, axles, screws, and other articles requiring lubrication.
2757. William Clark, 53, Chancery-lane—Improvements in tackle blocks. (A communication.)
2759. William Harwood, Mendlesham, Suffolk—Improvements in reaping machines.
2761. John Lawson, Leeds—Improvements in machinery for roving flax and other fibrous substance. (Partly a communication.)
2763. Samuel Knowles, Tooting Mill, near Bury—Improvements in "dunging" fabrics preparatory to dyeing.
Dated 31st October, 1857.
2765. George Bell Galloway, 42, Basinghall-street—Improvements in the construction of merchant ships and other vessels, in motive powers, propulsion and boiler furnaces.
2767. James Owen, Worsley, Lancashire—Improvements in machinery or apparatus for the prevention of accidents, applicable to hoisting and other lifting machines.
2769. Richard Martin, Ebenezer Hall, and Joshua Hall, Shrewsbury Works, Sheffield—Improvements in steam hammers.
2771. Richard Archibald Brooman, 166, Fleet-street—Improvements in the construction of boats. (A communication.)
2772. Johann Julius Schuessel, Breslau, Prussia, and Peter Julius Thourer, Berlin—The manufacture of a composition which will render inflammable materials incombustible.
2773. William Woodhead, James Woodhead, and John Woodhead, Eccleshill, near Leeds—Improvements in the manufacture of kiln tiles, and in the machinery or apparatus employed therein.
2775. Prodomos B. Kyishogloo, Constantinople—Improvements in obtaining and applying motive power.
2777. George Hallen Cottam and Henry Richard Cottam, St. Pancras Iron Works, Old St. Pancras-road—Improvements in stable fittings.
Dated 2nd November, 1857.
2779. Robert Kirkman, St. Helen's, Lancashire—Improvements in the fuses of lever and other watches.
2781. Eugene Murray, Beresford-street, Woolwich—Preventing accidents on railways.
2783. Charles Iles, Birmingham—Improvements in wardrobes or similar receptacles for articles of dress, and in stands, frames, and pins for holding or suspending articles of dress.
2785. James Apperly and William Clissold, Dudbridge, Gloucestershire—Improvements applicable to carding and condensing engines.
Dated 3rd November, 1857.
2789. James Edward Boyd, Hither-green, Lewisham—Improvements in skates.
2791. David Harcourt, Lozells, Birmingham—Improvements in wrenches.
2793. Rudolph Wappenstein, Manchester—Improvements in doctors or scrapers used for cleaning engraved surfaces.
2795. William Edward Newton, 66, Chancery-lane—Improved machinery for cutting files. (A communication.)

WEEKLY LIST OF PATENTS SEALED.

- November 13th.*
1359. William Sissons and Peter White.
1367. Daniel Reading.
1369. Charles Bartholomew and John Heptinstall.
1370. Joseph Aizlewood.
1378. Edward Gripper.
1383. Francis Parker.
1386. Henry Jones.
1398. James Apperly and William Clissold.
1403. Charles Reeves.
1495. Edward Welch.
1513. Thomas Hart.
1517. Thos. Willis and G. Chell.
1541. John Aiken Salmon.
1607. John Robertson.
1697. Henry Brinsmead.
2329. Peter Armand le Comte de Fontainemoreau.
2349. Leon Louis Honoré Bertou.
- November 17th.*
1394. Rudolph Bodmer.
1400. Charles Frédéric Vassero.
1405. Julius Friedrich Philipp Ludwig Von Sparre.
1412. Charles Weightman Harrison.
1419. George Sharp and William Elder.
1421. Elijah Aldis.
1422. John Harrison.
1450. Samuel Fox.
1490. William Holland.
1506. Thomas Grahame.
1507. Thomas Taylorson Jopling.
1508. Edward Paige Griffiths.
1520. James Merrylees.
1798. William Crook, Gilbert Rushton, & Joseph Crowther.
1961. Thomas Moedoll Smith.
2018. Henry Doulton.
2053. William Hirst.
2136. George Collier, William Noble, & Ward Holroyd.
2391. Gerd Jacob Bensen.

PATENTS ON WHICH THE STAMP DUTY OF £50 HAS BEEN PAID.

- November 10th.*
2399. Peter Armand le Comte de Fontainemoreau.
2502. John Clarke.
- November 11th.*
2429. Samuel Henton.
- November 12th.*
2408. Lancelot Kirkup.
2423. James Buchanan.
- November 13th.*
2402. Joseph Armstrong.
2426. Robert Wilson.
- November 14th.*
2425. Peter Knowles and Edward Kirby.
2432. William Hann.

WEEKLY LIST OF DESIGNS FOR ARTICLES OF UTILITY REGISTERED.

No. in the Register.	Date of Registration.	Title.	Proprietors' Name.	Address.
4933	Nov. 16.	The Fuel Economiser or Cinder Save-all	John Henry Hodd	29, Hill-street, Peckham, Surrey.